

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-10

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DRAFTED BY EA/PHL:RTWILLNER:SPB

APPROVED BY EA/PHL:EHULEN

VE/GC - MR. JOHNSTON

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R 180045Z JAN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 012455

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: EGEN, RP

SUBJECT: ECONOMIC NEGOTIATIONS AND VETERANS' BENEFITS

1. REVIEW OF MATERIALS ON LAST JULY'S ECONOMIC TALKS INDICATES THAT GOP ASKED DURING TREATY DISCUSSIONS FOR REVISION OF ARTICLE 3, SECTION 1, TO PROVIDE THAT VETERANS BENEFITS AND OTHER COMPENSATION FOR DISEASE, INJURY, OR DEATH, CONNECTED WITH EMPLOYMENT, SHOULD BE PAID TO RESIDENTS OF THE PHILIPPINES OR THIRD COUNTRIES AT THE SAME RATES PAID TO RECIPIENTS IN THE UNITED STATES.

2. WE ARE INFORMED THAT PRESENT VETERANS' BENEFITS, SET SOME YEARS AGO, ARE BASED ON RATE OF TWO PESOS FOR EACH DOLLAR OF BENEFITS PAYABLE TO RECIPIENTS IN U.S. WHILE A CONVERSION OF THIS RATE TO PRESENT EXCHANGE RATE OF SEVEN TO ONE WOULD NOT BE CONTEMPLATED, IT APPEARS THAT THERE MAY BE A CASE FOR SOME REVISION TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT CHANGES IN RELATIVE PURCHASING POWER OF PESO AND DOLLAR THAT MAY HAVE TAKEN PLACE SINCE PRESENT RATE ESTABLISHED.

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3. REQUEST EMBASSY: A) COMMENT ON PHILIPPINE INTENT IN

RAISING THIS QUESTION (ABOUT WHICH WE HAVE RELATIVELY
CRYPTIC NOTES); B) SUMMARIZE CURRENT ARRANGEMENTS AND
RATE; AND C) PROVIDE SUGGESTIONS FOR APPROPRIATE ACTION

ON THIS ISSUE. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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